

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-7, 9-12, 14-20, 22-25 and add Claims 27, 28 and 29 as follows:

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Sub B
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27. (new) A composition consisting essentially of a bitter tastant and a bitterness inhibitor, wherein said bitterness inhibitor is uridine 5'-monophosphate and the inhibitor is present at a concentration which inhibits bitterness.

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28. (new) A method of inhibiting the perception of a bitter taste in a subject, said method consisting essentially of administering to the subject an effective amount of a bitterness inhibitor in a composition which consisting essentially of a bitter tastant and bitterness inhibitor wherein said inhibitor is uridine 5'-monophosphate.

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29. (new) A method of inhibiting the perception of a bitter taste in a subject consisting essentially of administering to the subject an effective amount of a bitterness inhibitor in a composition which consists essentially of a bitter tastant and bitterness inhibitor wherein said inhibitor is a purine or pyrimidine group, or derivative thereof, and ionizable phosphate or other anionic organic molecule.

REMARKS

The Applicant herein acknowledges Claims 8, 13, 21 and 26 read on the elected species uridine 5'-monophosphate, with uridine as the species of choice. It is respectfully requested that Claims 8, 13, 21, 26 and new Claims 27-29 be considered for further examination.

The Examiner rejected Claims 8, 13, 21 and 26 under the provision of 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Kohjin (JP 11-169131).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.